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10/505,170	08/31/2004	Michael Held	WI.1899PCT-US	6682

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12/19/2005

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EXAMINER

TAWFIK, SAMEH

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

3721

DATE MAILED: 12/19/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.



## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Election/Restrictions***

Applicant's election of Group I, claims 13, 14, 17, 19, 21, 23, and 27 in the reply filed on 10/12/2005 is acknowledged. Because applicant did not distinctly and specifically point out the supposed errors in the restriction requirement, the election has been treated as an election without traverse (MPEP § 818.03(a)).

This application contains claims 15, 16, 18, 20, 22, 24-26, and 28 drawn to an invention nonelected in Paper No. 10122005. A complete reply to the final rejection must include cancellation of nonelected claims or other appropriate action (37 CFR 1.144) See MPEP § 821.01.

### ***Priority***

Receipt is acknowledged of papers submitted under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d), which papers have been placed of record in the file.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 13, 14, 17, 19, 23, and 27 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Muller (U.S. Patent No. 4,564,183).

Muller discloses a cutting device adapted to transversely cut at least a first web of material comprising: a cutting and conveying cylinder (Fig. 2; via cylinder 7), the cutting and

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conveying cylinder being a folding blade cylinder (via folding blade 9 on cylinder 7); a first counter-cylinder (via 4) cooperating with said cutting and conveying cylinder (7) and defining a first cutting gap through which a first web conveying path extends (Fig. 2); at least a first cutting blade (via cutting blade 24) on said cutting and conveying cylinder (7) and being usable for cutting off a product from a first web of material (web 1) in the course of passage of said at least first cutting blade through said first cutting gap (Fig. 2); a backstop on said first counter-cylinder (via 5) and cooperating with said at least first cutting blade (Fig. 2); a holding device (via 10) on said cutting and conveying cylinder (7) adapted to hold a cut-off product and to convey the product through said first cutting gap; and a second counter-cylinder (via cylinder 13) cooperating with said cutting and conveying cylinder and defining a second cutting gap (Fig. 2).

Regarding claim 14: wherein the first conveying path extends around the first counter cylinder at an inlet to same first cutting gap (Figs. 2).

Regarding claim 17: wherein the holding device is a spur strip (Figs. 2-4).

Regarding claim 19: spur needles (via 10) on the spur strip and further including at least one spur needle receiving groove (via 5) on the first counter cylinder (4).

Regarding claim 23: further including a web inlet (Fig. 2).

Regarding claim 27: further including a folding jaw cylinder (via 18) arranged directly after the cutting and conveying cylinder (Fig. 2).

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person

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having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claim 21 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Muller (U.S. Patent No. 4,564,183).

Muller does not disclose that the cutting and conveying cylinder has a circumference having a length equal to at least five product lengths. However, the examiner takes an official notice that such cutting and conveying cylinder has a circumference having a length equal to at least five product lengths is old, well known, and available in the art.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified Muller's cutting and conveying cylinder, by making it capable of holding at least five product lengths, as a matter of engineering design choice, in order to convey more products in shorter time.

### ***Conclusion***

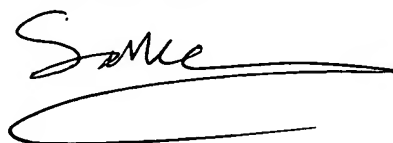
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Sameh H. Tawfik whose telephone number is 571-272-4470. The examiner can normally be reached on Tuesday - Friday from 8:00 AM to 6:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Rinaldi Rada can be reached on 571-272-4467. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Sameh H. Tawfik  
Patent Examiner  
Art Unit 3721

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sameh', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

ST.